

The invention claimed is:

1. A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:  
a handle;  
5 a polymeric film having a first and second side, at least a portion of said first side of said polymeric film being coated with an adhesive layer;  
said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film, the continuity of contact between said handle and the underlying second surface of said polymeric film being interrupted at least in the vicinity of at least a portion of the edge of said handle.  
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2. The device of claim 1 in which said continuity is interrupted to such an extent that the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is reduced by from about 10% to about 70%.
- 15 3. The device of claim 1 in which said continuity is interrupted to such an extent that the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is reduced by from about 10% to about 50%.
4. The device of claim 1 in which said continuity is interrupted to such an extent that  
20 the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is reduced by from about 10% to about 30%.
5. The device of claim 2 in which said continuity is interrupted by said handle being textured.  
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6. The device of claim 5 in which said texturing is accomplished by piercing said handle.
7. The device of claim 6 in which said piercing is conducted by piercing slots through  
30 said handle.
8. The device of claim 7 in which said slots are oriented diagonally relative to the edge of said handle.

9. The device of claim 7 in which said slots are oriented generally parallel to the edge of said handle.
- 5 10. The device of claim 6 in which said piercing is conducted by piercing pinholes through said handle.
11. The device of claim 5 in which said texturing comprises said handle being knurled.
- 10 12. The device of claim 5 in which said texturing comprises said handle being embossed or debossed.
13. The device of claim 5 in which texturing comprises said first adhesive coating being printed in a pattern on said first side of said handle.
- 15 14. The device of claim 5 in which said texturing comprises said handle being made of a material having a relatively rough first surface facing said polymeric film.
- 15 15. The device of claim 2 in which said interruption of the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film is accomplished by said second side of said polymeric film being textured.
- 20 16. The device of claim 2 in which said interruption of the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film is accomplished by said handle being pierced with slots, said slots being generally diagonally relative to the perimeter of said handle.
- 25 17. The device of claim 2 in which said interruption of the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film is accomplished by said handle being pierced with slots, said slots being generally parallel relative to the perimeter of said handle.
- 30 18. The device of claim 1 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by an adhesive layer adhered to the underside of said handle.

19. The device of claim 18 in which said continuity is interrupted to such an extent that the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is reduced by from about 10% to about 30%.

5 20. The device of claim 1 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by electrostatic attraction.

21. The device of claim 20 in which said handle comprises a conductive layer affixed to a non-conductive layer.

10 22. The device of claim 21 in which said continuity is interrupted to such an extent that the contact area between said handle and said polymeric film is reduced by from about 10% to about 30%.

15 23. A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:  
a handle;

a polymeric film having a first and second side, at least a portion of said first side of said polymeric film being coated with an adhesive layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film;

20 an anti-static ingredient being incorporated into one of said adhesive layer on said first side of said polymeric film, or into an anti-static coating on either said first or second surface of said polymeric film.

24. The device of claim 23 in which said anti-static ingredient is incorporated into said adhesive layer on said first side of said polymeric film.

25 25. The device of claim 24 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by an adhesive layer adhered to the underside of said handle.

30 26. The device of claim 24 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by electrostatic attraction.

27. The device of claim 26 in which said handle comprises a conductive layer affixed to a non-conductive layer.

28. A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:  
a handle;  
a polymeric film including a first and second side;  
at least a portion of the first side of said polymeric film being coated with an adhesive layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film;

said handle including a thumb tab projecting away from an edge of said handle, said thumb tab having a leading edge extending away from said handle at an angle greater than 90° with respect to the edge of said handle in the direction in which the handle is lifted and pulled when peeling said handle away from said polymeric film.

29. The device of claim 28 in which said angle is between about 120° and about 150°.

30. The device of claim 29 in which said angle is about 135°.

31. The device of claim 28 in which said handle is configured in the shape of a frame, such that it has an exterior perimeter edge and an interior perimeter edge, said interior perimeter edge defining an opening in said handle;

said handle frame including a diagonal cut extending between said inner and outer perimeter edges of said handle, generally in alignment with said leading edge of said thumb tab.

32. The device of claim 31 in which said diagonal cut and said leading edge of said thumb tab are oriented at an angle of between about 120 and about 150° relative to said edge of said handle in the direction in which said handle is to be pulled and lifted away from said polymeric film.

33. The device of claim 31 in which said diagonal cut and said leading edge of said thumb tab are oriented at an angle of about 135° relative to said edge of said handle in the direction in which said handle is to be pulled and lifted away from said polymeric film.

34. The device of claim 31 in which said thumb tab projects inwardly from said interior edge of said handle.

5 35. The device of claim 34 in which said diagonal cut and said leading edge of said thumb tab are oriented at an angle of between about 120 and about 150° relative to said edge of said handle in the direction in which said handle is to be pulled and lifted away from said polymeric film.

10 36. The device of claim 34 in which said diagonal cut and said leading edge of said thumb tab are oriented at an angle of about 135° relative to said edge of said handle in the direction in which said handle is to be pulled and lifted away from said polymeric film.

15 37. The device of claim 34 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by an adhesive layer adhered to the underside of said handle, there being no adhesive adhering said thumb tab to said polymeric film.

20 38. The device of claim 34 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by electrostatic attraction.

39. The device of claim 38 in which said handle comprises a conductive layer affixed to a non-conductive layer.

25 40. The device of claim 29 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by an adhesive layer adhered to the underside of said handle; there being no adhesive adhering said thumb tab to said polymeric film.

30 41. The device of claim 29 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by electrostatic attraction.

42. The device of claim 41 in which said handle comprises a conductive layer affixed to a non-conductive layer.

43. A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:  
a handle having a periphery;  
a polymeric film layer including a first side, a second side and a periphery;  
an adhesive layer coating at least a portion of said first side of said polymeric film  
5 layer, said handle being adhered to said second side of the polymeric film layer;  
wherein a portion of the periphery of said handle does not extend to said periphery  
of said polymeric film layer.
44. The device according to claim 43 wherein:  
10 the periphery of said handle is fashioned in a repeating pattern with only a portion  
of each repeated pattern extending to said periphery of said polymeric film layer.
45. The device according to claim 44 wherein:  
the shape of said repeating pattern is scalloped.  
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46. The device according to claim 44 wherein:  
at least a continuous substantial portion of at least one of a plurality of sides of the  
periphery of said handle does not extend to the periphery of said polymeric film layer.
47. The device of claim 46 in which said continuous substantial edge portion is  
20 centrally located between the ends of said side such that the end portions of said side  
extend to said periphery of said polymeric film to give stability to the corners thereof.
48. The device according to claim 46 wherein:  
25 said handle further includes a central opening.
49. The device according to claim 43 wherein at least a continuous, substantial portion  
of at least two opposite sides of the periphery of said handle does not extend to the  
periphery of the corresponding opposite sides of said polymeric film layer.  
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50. The device of claim 49 in which said continuous substantial edge portions are  
centrally located between the ends of said opposite sides such that the end portions of said

sides extend to said periphery of said polymeric film to give stability to the corners thereof.

51. The device according to claim 50 wherein:  
5 said handle further includes a central opening.

52. The device of claim 47 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by an adhesive layer adhered to the underside of said handle.

10 53. The device of claim 47 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by electrostatic attraction.

54. The device of claim 53 in which said handle comprises a conductive layer affixed to a non-conductive layer.  
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55. The device of claim 43 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by an adhesive layer adhered to the underside of said handle.

20 56. The device of claim 43 in which said handle is adhered to said polymeric film by electrostatic attraction.

57. The device of claim 56 in which said handle comprises a conductive layer affixed to a non-conductive layer.

25 58. A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:  
a handle having a first side and a periphery;  
a first adhesive layer coating at least a portion of said first side of said handle;  
a polymeric film layer including a first side, a second side and a periphery;  
a second adhesive layer coating at least a portion of said first side of said  
30 polymeric film layer, said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film layer by said first adhesive layer;

wherein said periphery of said handle extends at least to said periphery of said polymeric film, but said first adhesive layer is configured such that at least a portion of

said first adhesive layer does not extend to said periphery of said underlying polymeric film.

59. The device according to claim 58 wherein:

5 the periphery of said adhesive layer is fashioned in a repeating pattern, with only a portion of each repeated pattern extending to said periphery of said underlying polymeric film.

60. The device according to claim 59 wherein:

10 the shape of said repeating pattern is scalloped.

61. The device according to claim 59 in which at least a continuous substantial portion of said periphery of said adhesive layer does not extend to said periphery of said underlying periphery of said polymeric film.

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62. The device of claim 61 in which said continuous substantial edge portion is centrally located between the ends of said side such that the end portions of said side extend to said periphery of said polymeric film to give stability to the corners thereof.

63. The device according to claim 62 wherein:

20 said handle further includes a central opening.

64. A wound dressing, ingredient delivery device or IV hold-down comprising:  
a handle;

25 a polymeric film having a first and second side, at least a portion of said first side of said polymeric film being coated with an adhesive layer;

said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film, means on said polymeric film for minimizing the localized electrostatic charge buildup as said handle is peeled away from said film when it is applied to a patient's skin or mucosa, thereby minimizing edge release of said polymeric film from said patient's skin or  
30 mucosa.



65. A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle member to assist in their application, wherein the removal of said handle member after application tends to lift the edge of the adhesive coated polymeric film of the dressing or device away from the skin or mucosa of the patient, said method comprising:

- 5 providing a handle;
- providing a polymeric film including a first and a second side;
- coating at least a portion of the first side of the polymeric film with an adhesive layer, said handle being adhered to said second side of the polymeric film; and
- 10 minimizing the localized electrostatic charge buildup on said polymeric film as the handle is peeled away from applied film, thereby minimizing edge release of said film from the patient's skin or mucosa.

66. A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle member to assist in their application, wherein the removal of said handle member after application tends to lift the edge of the adhesive coated polymeric film of the dressing or device away from the skin or mucosa of the patient, said method comprising:

- 15 providing a handle;
- providing a polymeric film including a first and second side;
- coating at least a portion of the first side of said polymeric film with an adhesive layer;
- said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film; and
- interrupting the continuity of contact between said handle and said polymeric film,
- 20 thereby minimizing edge release of said film from the patient's skin or mucosa.

67. A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle member to assist in their application, wherein the removal of said handle member after application tends to lift the edge of the adhesive coated polymeric film of the dressing or device away from the skin or mucosa of the patient, said method comprising:

- 30 providing a handle having a first side;
- coating at least a portion of the first side of said handle with a first adhesive layer;

providing a polymeric film including a first and second side;  
coating at least a portion of the first side of said polymeric film with a second  
adhesive layer;  
said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film by said first  
5 adhesive layer; and  
reducing the area of contact between said first adhesive coating and said polymeric  
film by from about 10 to about 70%.

68. A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery  
10 devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle member to assist in their  
application, wherein the removal of said handle member after application tends to lift the  
edge of the adhesive coated polymeric film of the dressing or device away from the skin or  
mucosa of the patient, said method comprising:

providing a handle;  
15 providing a polymeric film including a first and second side;  
coating at least a portion of the first side of said polymeric film with a second  
adhesive layer;  
said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film; and  
providing said handle with a thumb tab projecting away from an edge of said  
20 handle at an angle greater than 90° with respect to the edge of said handle in the direction  
in which the handle is lifted and pulled in a peeling away motion for peeling said handle  
away from said polymeric film.

69. A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery  
25 devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle layer to assist in their application,  
wherein the removal of the handle layer, after application of the device to the patient,  
initiates the edge release, said method comprising:

providing a handle having a periphery;  
providing a polymeric film layer including a first side, a second side and a  
30 periphery;  
applying an adhesive layer to at least a portion of said first side of the polymeric  
film layer;  
said handle being adhered to said second side of the polymeric film layer;

configuring said handle such that only a portion of the periphery of said handle extends to the periphery of the polymeric film layer, leaving a portion of said periphery of said handle recessed away from said periphery of said polymeric film layer.

- 5        70.    A method of minimizing edge release in wound dressings, ingredient delivery devices and IV hold-downs which incorporate a handle layer to assist in their application, wherein the removal of the handle layer, after application of the device to the patient, initiates the edge release, said method comprising:
- providing a handle having a first side and a periphery;
- 10        applying a first adhesive layer on at least a portion of said first side of said handle, said adhesive layer having a periphery;
- providing a polymeric film layer including a first side, a second side and a periphery;
- applying a second adhesive layer to at least a portion of said first side of said
- 15        polymeric film layer;
- said handle being adhered to said second side of said polymeric film layer by said first adhesive layer;
- said periphery of said handle extending at least to said periphery of said polymeric film; and
- 20        configuring said first adhesive layer such that only a portion of the periphery of said first adhesive layer extends to the periphery of said underlying polymeric film layer.